Children's literature in the country through bodies like National Book Trust, India (NBT), Sahitya Akademi, Publications Division, etc. A number of public and private publishers are also making valuable contribution to this cause.

NBT, a premier organization set up by the Government, is operating children specific schemes like Nehru Bal Pustakalaya (NBT) and National Centre for Children's Literature (NCCL). The NBP series of publications of NBT aims at creating a treasure house of enjoyable and informative literature, which children can read at their own initiative. It promotes national integration by providing common reading material on a wide range of subjects in their mother tongue to children all over India. The NCCL promotes publication of childrens's literature. To facilitate awareness about children's literature, NCCL provides information to guardians, teachers, educationists and planners. In the reference library of the Centre, there are about ten thousands books in 14 Indian languages and 20 foreign languages. NCCL has started readers Clubs' movement to make reading interesting and to make books available for all especially children. The Centre has established about 21,000 readers' Clubs in all the States of the country so far. Children are major beneficiaries of these Clubs.

Distric Primary Education Programme (DPEP) supports school libraries. Mobile book van tours have been conducted in West Bengal, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh in collaboration with NBT. NBT on its own also operates Mobile Exhibition-cum-Sales Vans to make books available to different areas in the country in the States of Delhi, Orissa, Gujarat, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Assam.

Gujarat Districts under DPEP

2046. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT : Will the MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of districts of Gujarat brought under District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) ;

(b) the details of funds received and utilized from external sources for the programme during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, till date ;

(c) the total amount allocated and spent in the State during the above period ;

(d) the achievements made under the programme; and

(e) whether any case of bungling has come into the notice of the Central Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA) : (a) Banaskantha, Panchmahal, and Dang were brought under DPEP in the year 1996. Recently in the year 2001, another six districts were brought under DPEP. Of these, three are to be funded by the external agencies while Bhavnagar, Jamnagar & Junagarh would be funded wholly by the State Government.

(b) Details of funds received and utilized from the external sources are as follows :

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Fund received	Utilised (Total)
2000-2001	2400.00	2453.24
2001-2002	700.00	1046.02
Total	3100.00	3499.26

(c) Year Opening Balance Fund received (Rupees in Lakhs)

		GOI	GOG	Total	Amount spent
2000-01	241.89	2400	200	2841.89	2453.24
2001-02	388.65	700	125	1213.65	1046.02
Total	630.54	3100	325	4055.54	3499.26

(d) The improvement in primary education in these districts may be seen from the following figures of 2000-2001 as compared to 1996-1997 when the scheme was launched ;

	1996-97	2000-2001
Enrolment (Nos.)	6,19,576	9,23,582
Enrolment Girls (Nos.)	2,53,513	4,04,744
Enrolment SC (Nos)	55,866	71,088
Enrolment ST (Nos)	1,83,683	3,08,043
G.E.R (%)	83.44	113.1
Retention (%)	90 (1997-98)	93

Further under the programme :

(i) 2198 new Alternative School Centres were opened in which 47991 children were enrolled ;

(ii) 164 new schools were constructed :

(iii) 238 addtional class rooms were constructed ;

(iv) 716 toilets/urninals were provided to schools.

(e) No. Sir.